

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

*In re* Patent Application of:

William G. DENNIS, et al.

Application No.: 10/788,733

Filed: February 27, 2004

Docket No.: 2045532-5005C5  
(formerly 63351.000013)

Confirmation No.: 6097

Group Art Unit: 3767

Examiner: Catherine WITCZAK

For: **SURGICAL INSTRUMENT SEAL ASSEMBLY**

United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Customer Service Window, Mail Stop **AMENDMENT**  
Randolph Building  
401 Dulany Street  
Alexandria, VA 22314

**REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111**

Sir:

In response to the Non-Final Office Action mailed October 9, 2007 ("Office Action"), Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the application in view of the following amendments and remarks.

- **A Listing of Claims** begins at page 2.
- **Remarks** begin at page 7.
- **Conclusions** are set forth on page 12.

A Petition for a one (1)-month extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) is filed herewith extending the period for response through February 9, 2008. It is not believed that any further extensions of time are required other than those in the accompanying Petition. If extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned for under 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a), and any fees required therefore are hereby authorized to be charged to Attorney Deposit Account No. **23-1951** (McGuireWoods). Please charge any deficiencies in fees and credit any overpayment of fees to the same Deposit Account.